UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,515	01/18/2002	Thomas Layne Bascom	12038	7770

			EXAMINER
38598 7590 07/31/2006			STEVENS, ROBERT

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/050,515	BASCOM ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Robert Stevens	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 May 2006*.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-60* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-60* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

PTOL-326 (Rev. 7-05)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20060727

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Office maintains the previous rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), in light of the amendment.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's assertions have been fully considered but they are not deemed persuasive.

The Office notes that Applicant did not set forth any arguments.

Applicant asserted, however, that agreements regarding the claims were made in an Interview held on May 3, 2006. The Office respectfully notes, however, that as indicated in the Interview Summary dated May 3, 2006, no agreement with respect to the claims was reached. Discussions at the Interview indicated that any amendments to the claims would require further search and/or consideration.

For the reasons set forth above the Office maintains the rejections of the claims under 35 USC §103(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   **Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-20, 40, 43, 45-51, 53-58 and 60 are rejected under 35**

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application

Publication No. US 2002/0065671, filed Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing

date of Sep. 12, 2000, hereafter referred to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al.

(Teach Yourself XML, IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter

referred to as "Eddy"). Note that the definition of "directory" has also been supplied

using the Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, 3rd Edition, Microsoft Press, Redmond,

WA, (c) 1997, pp. 148-149 (hereafter "Microsoft Dictionary").

Regarding independent claim 1, Goerz discloses:

> *A method for enabling users of a network to create, store, and provide access to relationships among document objects stored on the network, the method comprising the steps of:*
> > *storing the link relationship in one or more link directories;* ([0071] re: supercategories and subcategories) *and*
> > *accessing one or more link relationships stored in the one or more link directories using a unique identifier for a document object,* ([0007] re: no discrimination among users of prior art browsers) *wherein the one or more link directories are separate from the document object.* ([0071] – [0073] re: supercategories and subcategories, and further noting that it is inherent that directory has a separate existence [i.e., is stored separately] from a document object [i.e., a file], as a directory is merely "a catalog of

filenames" and not the actual files. Refer to the definition of "directory" on p. 148 of the Microsoft Dictionary.)

However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *allowing a user of the network to create a link relationship between a first document object and a second document object, wherein the link relationship includes fields referencing a first and second document object;*

Eddy, though, discloses this limitation. (See Eddy at p. 311, code listing 21-10, especially ' href="/regions/nyc.xml" '. Eddy at page 318 further discusses extended link groups which reference a set of target resources or objects.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Eddy for the benefit of Goerz, because to do so would have enabled a user to use a link to choose from several locations as taught by Eddy in the first paragraph of p. 303. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Regarding claim 4: Goerz does not explicitly disclose this limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein the allowing step comprises:*
> *locating a first document object;* (See p. 311 listing 21-10, re: the current document)
> *locating a second document object related to the first document object in some manner determined by the first user;* (See p. 311 listing 21-10, re: selection of the link [i.e., document] "nyc.xml") *and*

>   *creating a link relationship between the first document object and
> the second document object.* (See p. 311 listing 21-10, re: '
> href="regions/nyc.xml" ')

Regarding claim 6, Goerz does not explicitly disclose this limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

>   *wherein the storing step comprises:*
>   *storing a link relationship entry in a link relationship table, wherein
> the link relationship entry comprises fields including a first link reference to
> the first document object* (See p. 311 listing 21-10, re: the link to "nyc.xml")
> *and a second link reference to the second document object;* (p. 311 listing
> 21-10, re: the current document)
>   *assigning link relationship attributes to the link relationship entry;*
> (See p. 311 listing 21-10, re: the link to "nyc.xml") *and*
>   *setting a directional indicator for the link relationship entry.* (See p.
> 311 listing 21-10, re: "regions" link relationship entity of 1st line and href
> code assigning link references)

Regarding claim 7, Goerz also discloses:

>   *wherein the step of storing the link relationship in one or more link
> directories further comprises:*
>   *storing the first link reference to the first document object in a
> document object table;* ([0041], re: indexed knowledge base 38 and
> supercategories)
>   *storing the second link reference to the second document object in
> a document object table;* ([0041], re: indexed knowledge base 38 and
> supercategories) *and*

However, Goerz does not explicitly, as claimed, disclose:

>   *assigning document object attributes to the first link reference
> associated with the first document object;*
>   *assigning document object attributes to the second link reference
> associated with the second document object.*

Eddy, though, discloses these limitations. (See Eddy at p. 311, listing 21-10

noting the first title attribute set to "New York City", and the second title attribute set to

"Long Island")

Regarding claim 8, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed:

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein one or more of the link relationship attributes are set;* (See
> p. 311 listing 21-10, re: set of href assignment statements) *and*
> *a directional indicator for the link relationship attribute is set by*
> *associating one document object attribute for the first link reference with*
> *one document object attribute for the second link reference.* (See p. 311
> listing 21-10, link direction set via href statements)

Regarding claim 9, Goerz further discloses:

> *further comprising displaying to a user a link reference to a*
> *document object related to a document object the user is currently*
> *accessing, wherein the link reference displayed to the user is determined*
> *by identifying those link relationships stored in the one or more link*
> *directories that include a link reference to a network address of the*
> *currently accessed document object.* (See the Goerz Fig. 19I and [0095]
> discussing collaboration)

Regarding claim 10, Goerz further discloses:

> *wherein the displaying step comprises displaying more than one*
> *link reference from one or more link directories.* (See the Goerz Fig. 19I,
> the display of more than one company reference)

Regarding claim 11, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the displaying step comprises sorting and presenting one or more link references by the one or more link directories storing the link references. (See Fig. 19 E, search results numbered 1-6 are sorted alphabetically and displayed)

Regarding claim 12, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the displaying step comprises sorting and presenting the one or more link references by attributes of the link relationships and link references. (See Fig. 19 I, companies are sorted by type)

Regarding claim 13, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the method is used on one or more of: a private network, a closed network, a public network, and a private network that is connected to a public network. (See Fig. 1 #10, showing the Internet [i.e., a public network])

Regarding claim 15, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the one or more link directories may be stored on a server connected to the network by means of a secure connection. (See Goerz Fig. 1 #2, and the security discussions in [0037], [0013] and [0095])

Regarding claim 16, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

further comprising assigning attributes to the link relationship established between the first document object and the second document object. (See Eddy p. 311 listing 21-10, second code line re: New York Regions title attribute assigned to regions extended link [i.e., link relationship])

Regarding claim 17, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> further comprising assigning attributes to a first link reference to the first document object and a second link reference to the second document object. (See Eddy at p. 311 listing 21-10, re: title=New York City, and href=/regions/li.xml)

Regarding claim 18, Goerz further discloses:

> wherein the link relationship stored in the one or more link directories may be organized, sorted, searched and filtered by one or more attributes assigned to the link relationships. (See Goerz Fig. 19 I, re: organize, sort, search and filter by company type)

Regarding claim 19, Goerz further discloses:

> wherein the link references stored in the one or more link directories may be organized, sorted, searched and filtered by one or more attributes assigned to the link references. (See Goerz Fig. 19 I, re: organize, sort, search and filter by company type)

Regarding claim 20, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein the step of providing one or more link references to document objects on the network comprises:*
>> *selecting the displayed link references for display based on a link relationship to the currently displayed document object;* (see Eddy at p. 309 listing 21-8, re: link relationship set using href) *and*
>> *filtering the displayed link references by attributes.* (See Eddy at p. 309 listing 21-8, upon link traversal play sound according to the assigned attribute)

Regarding independent claim 40, Goerz discloses:

A computer readable medium upon which is embedded instructions for carrying out a method for enabling users of a network to create, store, and provide access to relationships among document objects stored on the network, the method comprising the steps of:

storing the link relationship in one or more link directories; ([0071] re: supercategories and subcategories) *and*
accessing one or more link relationships stored in the one or more link directories using a unique identifier for a document object, ([0007] re: no discrimination among users of prior art browsers) *wherein the one or more link directories are separate from the document object.* ([0071] – [0073] re: supercategories and subcategories, and further noting that it is inherent that directory has a separate existence [i.e., is stored separately] from a document object [i.e., a file], as a directory is merely "a catalog of filenames" and not the actual files. Refer to the definition of "directory" on p. 148 of the Microsoft Dictionary.)

However, Goerz does not explicitly, as claimed, disclose:

allowing creation of a link relationship between a first document object and a second document object, wherein the link relationship includes fields referencing a first and second document object;

Eddy, though, discloses this limitation. (See Eddy at p. 311, code listing 21-10, especially ' href="/regions/nyc.xml" '. Eddy at page 318 further discusses extended link groups which reference a set of target resources or objects.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Eddy for the benefit of Goerz, because to do so would have enabled a user to use a link to choose from several locations as taught by

Eddy in the first paragraph of p. 303. These references were all applicable to the same

field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Claim 43 is substantially similar to claim 4, and therefore likewise rejected.

Claims 45-51 are substantially similar to claims 6-12, respectively, and therefore

likewise rejected.·

Claims 53-57 are substantially similar to claims 15-19, respectively, and

therefore likewise rejected.

Regarding claim 58, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein the link relationship includes a directional indicator.* (See
> Eddy at p. 312 under the section entitled "TAKE NOTE", disclosing that
> extended links can move in one direction or be multidirectional.")

Claim 60 is substantially similar to claim 58, and therefore likewise rejected.

5.   **Claims 21-23, 26-27, 37, 39 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as

being unpatentable over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. US

2002/0065671, filed Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing date of Sep. 12,

2000, hereafter referred to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al. (Teach Yourself

XML, IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter referred to as

"Eddy") and further in view of Gupta et al. (US Patent No. 6,484,156, provisionally filed

Sep. 15, 1998 and issued Nov. 19, 2002, hereafter referred to as "Gupta").

Regarding independent claim 21, Goerz discloses:

*A system for establishing and providing access to relationships between
document projects stored on a network wherein the relationship between a first
document object and a second document object may be created by an individual
user of the network and provided to other users of the network, the system
comprising:*
> *one or more client devices (Fig. 1 # 16A) that access document
> objects stored on the network (Fig. 1 # 10) ... ; and*
> *one or more servers (Fig. 1 #2) that store ... created by the client
> devices (Fig. 1 # 16A) and transmit (Fig. 1 path from #10 to #16A) ... to
> the client devices, (Fig. 1 # 16A) ... .*

However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *...and allow creation of link relationships between document
> objects, wherein the link relationship includes fields referencing a first and
> second document object;*
> *... the link relationships ... allow access to one or more stored link
> relationships using a unique identifier for a document object ... one or
> more link relationships and link references ... .*

Eddy, though, discloses these limitations. (See Eddy at p. 311, code listing 21-

10, especially ' href="/regions/nyc.xml" '. Eddy at page 318 further discusses extended

link groups which reference a set of target resources or objects.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Eddy for the benefit of Goerz, because to do so

would have enabled a user to use a link to choose from several locations as taught by

Eddy in the first paragraph of p. 303. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Additionally, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> ... , wherein the one or more stored link relationships are separate from the document object.

Gupta, though, discloses this limitation. (See Gupta Fig. 1, noting distinction between #12 web page server, #11 streaming media server and #10 annotation server, and especially in context of Fig. 12 showing separate screens for display of annotations and a linked/associated media document.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Gupta for the benefit of Goerz in view of Eddy, because to do so would have allowed a system user to easily access annotations corresponding to different multimedia documents as taught by Gupta in col. 2 lines 38-40. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

These references (Goerz, Eddy and Gupta) were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Regarding claim 22, Goerz further discloses:

> wherein the one or more servers filter and sort the link relationships and link references before transmitting the link relationships and link

references to the client devices. (See Goerz Fig. 19E, search results
numbered 1-6 are filtered/sorted alphabetically and displayed.
When/where sorting - a topic in every computer science data structure
class - takes place is irrelevant from a patentability standpoint.)

Regarding claim 23, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the client devices filter and sort the link relationships and
link references after the link relationships and link references are
transmitted to the client devices from the one or more servers. (See Goerz
Fig. 19 E, search results numbered 1-6 are sorted alphabetically and
displayed. When/where sorting - a topic in every computer science data
structure class - takes place is irrelevant from a patentability standpoint.)

Regarding claim 26, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the one or more client devices comprise:
        *a client tool, wherein the client tool comprises a graphic user
interface display;* (See Goerz [0093])
        a rendering tool that renders and displays document objects (Fig.
16 C), *the rendering tool comprising:*
        a graphic user interface display (See Goerz [0100], re: screen
shots); *and*
        a document object network address (See Goerz [0095], re: group
collaborations and access to Internet resources); *and*
        *a network access tool that connects the rendering tool and the
client tool to the network.* (See Goerz [0094], re: online activities)

Regarding claim 27, Goerz further discloses:

*wherein the document object network address comprises a Uniform
Resource Locator.* (See Goerz [0095], re: URL)

Regarding claim 37, Goerz further discloses:

wherein the network one or more of: a private network, a closed
network, a public network, and a private network that is connected to a
public network. (See Goerz Fig. 1 #10, the Internet [a public network])

Regarding claim 39, Goerz further discloses:

> wherein the one or more link directories may be stored on a server connected to the network by means of a secure connection. (See Goerz Fig. 1 #2, and security discussions in [0037], [0013] and [0095])

Regarding claim 59, Goerz does not explicitly disclose the limitation as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein the link relationship includes a directional indicator.* (See Eddy at p. 312 under the section entitled "TAKE NOTE", disclosing that extended links can move in one direction or be multidirectional.")

6.   **Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0065671, filed Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing date of Sep. 12, 2000, hereafter referred to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al. (Teach Yourself XML, IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter referred to as "Eddy") and further in view of Gupta et al. (US Patent No. 6,484,156, provisionally filed Sep. 15, 1998 and issued Nov. 19, 2002, hereafter referred to as "Gupta") and Li (US No. 6,725,227, provisionally filed Oct. 2, 1998, hereafter referred to as "Li").

Regarding claim 38, However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *wherein the one or more link directories are accessible only by a specific individual user of a client device.*

Li, though, discloses this limitation. (See Li at col. 1 lines 53-56, re: access control.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Li for the benefit of Goerz in view of Eddy and Gupta, because to do so would have allowed users in a business environment to control access to information by individuals, projects and departments, as taught by Li in col. 1 lines 53-56. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

7.   **Claims 2-3, 14, 41-42 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0065671, filed Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing date of Sep. 12, 2000, hereafter referred to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al. (Teach Yourself XML, IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter referred to as

"Eddy") and further in view of Li (US No. 6,725,227, provisionally filed Oct. 2, 1998,

hereafter referred to as "Li").

Regarding claim 2, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *wherein the accessing step comprises providing access only to*
> *authorized users.*

Li, though, discloses this limitation. (See Li at col. 1 lines 53-56, re: access

control.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Li for the benefit of Goerz in view of Eddy, because

to do so would have allowed users in a business environment to control access to

information by individuals, projects and departments, as taught by Li in col. 1 lines 53-

56. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the linking

of network documents.

Regarding claim 3, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *further comprising authorizing users of the network to perform the*
> *allowing, storing and accessing steps.*

Li, though, discloses this limitation. (See Li at col. 1 lines 53-56, re: access

control.)

Regarding claim 14, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *wherein the one or more link directories are accessible only by a
> specific individual user of a client device.*

Li, though, discloses this limitation. (See Li at col. 1 lines 53-56, re: access

control.)

Claims 41-42 and 52 are substantially similar to claims 2-3 and 14, respectively,

and therefore likewise rejected.

8.   **Claims 5 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable

over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0065671, filed

Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing date of Sep. 12, 2000, hereafter referred

to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al. (Teach Yourself XML, IDG Books

Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter referred to as "Eddy") and further in

view of Chang (US Patent No. 5,694,594, filed Nov. 14, 1994 and issued Dec. 2, 1997,

hereafter referred to as "Chang").

Regarding claim 5, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *wherein one or more of the steps of the method are accomplished
> by automated procedures not requiring interaction with the user.*

Chang, though, discloses this limitation. (See the Chang Abstract, disclosing the

automatic generation of links)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Chang for the benefit of Goerz in view of Eddy,

because to do so would have allowed a user to control the generation of links as taught

by Chang in col. 8 lines 61-63. These references were all applicable to the same field

of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Claim 44 is substantially similar to claim 5, and therefore likewise rejected.

9.   **Claims 24-25 and 28-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being

unpatentable over Goerz, Jr. et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. US

2002/0065671, filed Jan. 30, 2001 and claiming benefit of CIP filing date of Sep. 12,

2000, hereafter referred to as "Goerz") in view of Sandra E. Eddy et al. (Teach Yourself

XML, IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., Foster City, CA, (c) 1999, hereafter referred to as

"Eddy") and further in view of Gupta et al. (US Patent No. 6,484,156, provisionally filed

Sep. 15, 1998 and issued Nov. 19, 2002, hereafter referred to as "Gupta") and Chang

(US Patent No. 5,694,594, filed Nov. 14, 1994 and issued Dec. 2, 1997, hereafter

referred to as "Chang").

Regarding claim 24, Georz further discloses:

> *wherein the one or more servers comprise:*
> *one or more link directories that store the link relationships created*
> *on the one or more client devices;* ([0071], re: supercategories and
> subcategories)
> *a server manager module that coordinates communication* ([0069],
> re: content management tool) *between the one or more link directories*
> ([0069], re: indexed knowledge base 38, which is used in conjunction with
> the content management tool), *a user directory* ([0057], re: user account
> on Website), *... , and the one or more client devices* (Fig. 1 # 16A) *if those*
> *client devices are requesting services from the server* (Fig. 1 # 2); *and*
> *a user data store that stores information regarding authorized users*
> *of the servers and link directories* ([0041], re: indexed knowledge base 38
> and supercategories) *and*

However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *a database of user profile data*

Chang, though, discloses this limitation. (See the Chang Abstract, disclosing the
                                                                    .
use of a user profile.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Chang for the benefit of Goerz in view of Eddy and

Gupta, because to do so would have allowed a user to control the generation of links as

taught by Chang in col. 8 lines 61-63. These references were all applicable to the same

field of endeavor, i.e., the linking of network documents.

Regarding claim 25, Georz further discloses:

> *wherein the user data store comprises:*
> *a user directory, the user directory comprising one or more user data records containing personal identifying information and information regarding which of the one or more link directories and the one or more servers a user may be authorized to access;* ([0057], especially re: user account)
> *a user account store, the user account store comprising one or more user account records each containing usage data for each authorized user of the servers and link directories* ([0057], especially re: user account) *and*

However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *a user profile.store, the user profile store comprising one or more user profile records each containing one or more user profiles for each authorized user of the servers and link directories;*

Chang, though, discloses this limitation. (See the Chang Abstract, disclosing the

use of a user profile.)

Regarding claim 28, Georz further discloses:

> *wherein the one or more servers comprise:*
> *one or more link directories that store the link relationships;* ([0071], re: supercategories and subcategories)
> *a communications module that coordinates communication* ([0069], re: content management tool) *between the one or more link directories* ([0069], re: indexed knowledge base 38, which is used in conjunction with the content management tool), *a user directory* ([0057], re: user account on Website), ... , *and the one or more client devices;* (Fig. 1 # 16A) *and*
> *a user data store that stores information regarding authorized users of the client tool* ([0041], re: indexed knowledge base 38 and supercategories) *and*

However, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *a database of user profile data*

Chang, though, discloses this limitation. (See the Chang Abstract, disclosing the use of a

user profile)

Regarding claim 29, Goerz does not explicitly disclose these limitations, as

claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

wherein the one or more link directories comprise:

*a link relationship table comprising a plurality of link relationship
entries, the link relationship entries comprising* (See Eddy at p. 311, code
listing 21-10):
*a first field comprising a first link reference to a first document
object of the link relationship;* (See Eddy at p. 311, code listing 21-10 re:
href="/regions/nyc.xml")
*a second field comprising a second link reference to a second
document object of the link relationship;* (See Eddy at p. 311, code listing
21-10 re: href="/regions/li.xml")
*one or more link relationship attributes providing information that
places the link relationship in a context useful to the user;* (See Eddy at p.
311, code listing 21-10 re: title="New York City") *and*
*a directional indicator that indicates whether the link relationship
between the first link reference to the first document object and the
second link reference to the second document object applies in either
direction or in both directions.* (See Eddy at p. 311, listing 21-10 uses href
to indicate link direction)

Regarding claim 30, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

wherein the directional indicator comprises a plurality of directional
indicator fields, each directional indicator field corresponding to one of the
one or more link relationship attributes and indicating whether the
corresponding link relationship attribute applies in one direction or in both

directions between the first link reference to the first document object and the second link reference to the second document object.

Eddy, though, discloses this limitation. (See Eddy at p. 311, listing 21-10 uses a series of href assignments to indicate link direction.)

Regarding claim 31, Goerz does not explicitly disclose these limitations, as claimed.

Eddy, though, discloses:

> *wherein the one or more link directories further comprise:*
> *a document object table comprising a plurality of link reference entries* (See Eddy at p. 311 listing 21-10), *the link reference entries comprising:*
> *a network address of the document object on the network indicated by the link reference entry wherein the unique identifier for a document object is the network address of the document object;* (See Eddy at p. 310, code near bottom of left column '
> href="http://www.eddygrp.com/bug.doc" ') *and*
> *one or more document object attributes providing information that places the document object indicated by the link reference entry in a context that is useful to the user.* (See Eddy at p. 310, code near bottom of left column ' title="Bug Report 12/3/99" ')

Regarding claim 32, Goerz further discloses:

> *wherein the network address comprises a Uniform Resource Locator.* (See Goerz at [0095], re: URL)

Regarding claim 33, Goerz does not explicitly disclose, as claimed:

> *wherein the link reference entries further comprise a listing of all link relationship entries in which the network address of the document object indicated by the link reference entry is present in the first field or the second field of the link relationship entries.*

Eddy, though, discloses this limitation. (See Eddy at p. 310 second code fragment in left-most column discloses a network address [www.eddygrp.com/bug.doc] of a document object. Where the address is stored in a record or data structure is irrelevant as far as patentability is concerned.)

Claims 34-36 are substantially similar to claim 32, and therefore likewise rejected.

Conclusion

10.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later
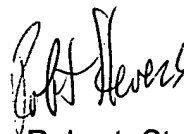
than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Robert Stevens whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 - 2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Robert Stevens
Examiner
Art Unit 2162

July 27, 2006

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER